

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 H-02

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R 151646Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7033

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, IT

SUBJ: CIVAIR - SEABOARD SCHEDULES AND CHANGE-OF-GAUGE

REF: (A) STATE 85825, (B) STATE 84074

1. EMBOFF DELIVERED NOTE ALONG LINES REFTEL (B) TO MINISTRY FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) REP FIACCADORI APRIL 14, PROPOSING CONSULTATIONS ON CHANGE-OF-GAUGE AND USE OF 747-F DURING WEEK OF MAY 24 IN WASHINGTON PROVIDED ITALIAN AUTHORITIES DO NOT IN MEANTIME TAKE ACTION AGAINST SEABOARD. IN ORAL PRESENTATION, EMBOFF NOTED THAT: (A) WHILE USG REQUEST FOR CONSULTATIONS LIMITED TO TWO ALL-CARGO ISSUES, THIS WOULD NOT PREVENT GOI FROM RAISING OTHER SUBJECTS IF THEY SO DESIRE; AND (B) US SIDE, HOWEVER, WILL NOT BE IN POSITION TO DISCUSS ROUTES ISSUES UNTIL AFTER TRANS ATLANTIC ROUTES RENEWAL CASE DECIDED. EMBOFF SAID USG WOULD APPRECIATE REPLY TO REQUEST FOR CONSULTATIONS ASAP.

2. FIACCADORI SAID ISSUES VERY COMPLEX AS FAR AS GOI CONCERNED AND THAT A REPLY WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE POSSIBLE UNTIL AT LEAST A WEEK AFTER EASTER. HE INDUCATED THAT CIVILAVIA HAS NOT YET MOVED AGAINST SEABOARD ONLY RPT ONLY BECAUSE SEABOARD STILL OPERATING DC-8/63F BETWEEN NEW YORK AND FRANKFURT. HE IMPLIED THAT GOI MAY BE ALE
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TO ACCEPT CONSULTATIONS ONLY IF SEABOARD MAINTAINS

STATUS QUO, I.E., DOES NOT REPLACE DC-8/63F WITH 747-F,
IN THE INTERIM. FIACCADORI REQUESTED ADVANCE NOTICE OF ANY
CHANGE IN SEABOARD'S PRESENT OPERATIONS.

3. FIACCADORI ALSO STATED THAT, AS FAR AS GOI CONCERNED,
SIDE NOTE ON CHANGE-OF-GAUGE APPLIES ONLY TO COMBINED
SERVICES AND NOT TO ALL-CARGO SERVICES.

4. COMMENT. EMBASSY EXPECTS GOI TO MAKE CONSULTATIONS
CONDITIONAL UPON SEABOARD MAINTAINING STATUS QUO IN
INTERIM. EMBASSY FEARS THAT, UNDER SEVERE PRESSURE FROM
ALITALIA, CIVILAVIA WILL MOVE AGAINST SEABOARD SHOULD
747-F REPLACE DC-8/63F ON NEW YORK-FRANKFURT ROUTE. IF
CONSULTATIONS CAN BE HELD DURING WEEK OF MAY 24 AS USG
HAS REQUESTED, WOULD SEABOARD BE WILLING TO DELAY INTRO-
DUCTION OF SECOND 747-F?VOLPE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC NOTES, MEETINGS, AIR SCHEDULES, AVIATION AGREEMENTS, SUPPLEMENTAL AIRLINES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ROME06239
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760144-0694
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760457/aaaabwlv.tel
Line Count: 77
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 85825, 76 STATE 84074
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <16 AUG 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR - SEABOARD SCHEDULES AND CHANGE-OF-GAUGE
TAGS: EAIR, IT, US, SEABOARD
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006